

1937.

ANNUAL REPORT

— AND —

VITAL STATISTICS.

URBAN DISTRICT OF

MIDDLEWICH.

PREPARED BY

R. A. NEILL, M.B., Ch.B.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Middlewich Urban District Council.

VICTORIA BUILDINGS,
MIDDLEWICH.

To the Chairman and Members of the

MIDDLEWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Dear Sir and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Second Annual Report and Vital Statistics for the Year ended December 31st, 1937.

Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health R. A. NEILL, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector R. L PRICE, C.R.S.I.

Exchequer Grants to Salary of both Officers.

Statistics and Social Conditions of Area.

	December 31st.	1931.	1937.
Area in Acres	1,082	1,956	
Population	5,458	5,992	
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,355	1,658	
No. of Families or Separate Families	1,340	1,623	
Rateable Value	£19,271	£25,046	
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£79	£97/5/5	

Social Conditions.

Manufacture of Alkali, Salt, Clothing, Silk Winding, Cheese, Building Contractors.

Returns of Labour Exchange.

On Register :	Men and Boys.	Women and Girls.	Total.
January 1st, 1937	332	77	409
December 31st, 1937	312	102	414

These figures are given by the courtesy of the Branch Manager. The exchange serves a large Rural Area as well as the Urban Area.

The increase in Women and Girls was due to seasonal temporary stoppage in the Salt and Clothing Works.

Births.						Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	48	51	99	—
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1	—
Totals						48	52	100	16.68
STILL BIRTHS						—	4	4	0.12

Deaths.						Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate.
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	37	23	60	10.01

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

None.

Deaths of Infants under One Year.

						Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate.
All Infants	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	7	1.17

Death Rate of Infants under One Year.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births.	70
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Births.	70
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Births.	Nil.

Deaths from

						Males	Females.	Total.
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	One	Nil.	One

Section B. General Provisions of Health Services for the Area.

OFFICERS. As at commencement of Report.

2. (a). Laboratory Services.

GENERAL. University of Manchester.

TUBERCULOSIS. Cheshire Council Council.

WATER. E. Melling, Esq., Cheshire County Council.

(b). Ambulance Facilities.

For Accidents and General Use—Two Motor Ambulances stationed at Winsford, 3 miles away. Telephonic Communication by day or night.

The Council contribute £2/2/0 towards maintenance.

Infectious Diseases.

Motor Ambulance at Isolation Hospital. Communication by Telephone. Driver resides at Hospital.

(c). Nursing in the Home.

The Council contributes to the funds of the Local Nursing Association for use of Nurses' services when required by the Medical Officer of Health.

(d). Treatment Centres and Clinics.

All provided by County Council.

(e). Hospitals.

For Women—St. Mary's, Manchester.

General—Albert Infirmary, Winsford.

Royal Infirmary, Manchester.

Children—Children's Hospital, Pendlebury, Manchester.

The Accommodation at all Hospitals is excellent.

Infectious Disease.

General Hospital at Davenham, under control of Northwich Rural, Northwich, Middlewich and Winsford Urban Districts Joint Hospital Committee. The Accommodation is excellent.

Smallpox.

Hospital at Marbury under same Committee. The Accommodation is good.

Puerperal Fever.

Removed, when necessary, to Hospitals under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health.

Section C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. Water.

Town's Water is supplied to practically all houses in the Urban Area.

Only a few houses at considerable distance from mains have their own supply. All these sources have been analysed during the year and found to be free from contamination of any kind. The Town's supply has maintained its high standard of purity and supply. There is no restriction placed on supply at any time.

SAMPLES of Water submitted for examination by the Public Health Laboratory, University of Manchester :—

1. Delivery Pipe Borehole to Reservoir, Council Supply.
2. Tap, 18, Lewin Street, ditto.
3. Tap, Home Farm, Warmingham Lane.
4. Pump, Brookfields.
5. Tap, The Manor.
6. Pump, Sutton Cottage.
7. Spring, Sutton Hall.
8. Reservoir, Sproston. Council Reserve Supply.

AVERAGE DAILY CONSUMPTION OF WATER DURING 1937—
218,913 Gallons per day.

Consumption of Water during the past Five Years.

Year.	Gallons per day.	
1933	... 229,666.	Supply to Congleton R.D.C.
1934	... 202,068.	Ceased to supply above.
1935	... 206,619.	
1936	... 210,317.	
1937	... 218,913.	

Drainage and Sewerage.

With the exception of a very few Houses at considerable distance from Sewers, all Houses are connected to the Public Sewers.

A Waste Water Sewer to Septic Tanks operates in part of the District recently brought into the Urban area.

Extension to Sewer in St. Ann's Road, to accommodate new houses.

Sewers are kept clean and in good working order.

Sewage Disposal.

The Works continue to suffer from subsidence and the Council have obtained outline of a new scheme, and are in communication with the County Council with a view to financial assistance.

Rivers' Pollution.

No serious pollution of the streams in the Urban Area has taken place.

The Council in the early part of the year cleaned the bed of the Croco, flowing through the Town for appearances sake, and in the interests of Public Health.

Sanitary Accommodation at Houses.

During the year seven Privy Closets were converted to Water-closets.

Total number of Houses in area	...	...	1,663		
Houses having Water Closets	...	...	1,564	...	94 %.
Houses with Pail Closets	...	...	74	...	04 %.
Houses with Privy Closets	...	...	51	...	03 %.

Two Houses have Water Closets inside and Pail Closets outside.

Disposal.

Nightsoil is disposed of to a Market Gardener in tips, covered with rough Peat Moss.

No Nightsoil is spread direct on to any land.

There have been no complaints during the year.

Ashes Accommodation.

Conversions during the Year.

Houses using Covered Ash Pits	...	...	...	...	7	All to
Houses using Open Ash Pits	...	...	...	...	6	Ash Bins.
Houses using Ash Bins	...	...	...	1,436	...	86 %.
Houses using Covered Ash Pits	...	...	...	176	...	10 %.
Houses using Open Ash Pits	...	...	...	51	...	03 %.

Disposal.

All House Refuse is tipped at Council's Private Tip, Booth Lane, and disposed of under the Controlled Tipping Method, No complaints of this Tip have been received during the Year.

Collection.

Collection of Nightsoil and House Refuse is made by Council's own Labours with hired Team Labour under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Pail Closets emptied	...	Weekly.
Privy Closets emptied	...	Monthly.
Ash Bins emptied	...	Weekly.
Ash Pits emptied	...	Every Six Weeks.

Sanitary Inspection.

Smoke Abatement.

No complaints during the Year.

Shops.

All Shops regularly visited and found to be in order. No complaints from Shop Inspector.

Shops with Living Accommodation	...	...	...	85
Lock-up Shops	...	...	...	29

Burials.

Cemetery in Urban Area, controlled by Joint Burial Board to which Urban Council appoints seven members.

Cemetery kept in excellent condition.

Mortuary at Cemetery, for one body ; in charge of Cemetery Keeper.

Parish Churchyard closed for Burials.

Schools.

Number Three, serving Urban and Rural Population. All have Water Closets. Ash Bins are kept in clean order. Town's Water laid on to all Schools.

Offensive Trades.

One Knacker's Yard licensed, kept in clean, good order. Only used as receiving yard.

Rag Flock Act.

No premises in area where this is manufactured or sold.

Swimming Pools.

There are no Swimming Pools in the area.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number found : Council Houses, 1 ; Other Houses, 2. Total, 3.

These have been regularly sprayed with Yaldicide by the Tenants under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. This has been found satisfactory.

Housing.

Number of new Houses erected by private enterprise during the Year ... 50.

Number of Houses built during the past Five Years :—

Year.				By Local Authority.		Private Enterprise.		Total.
1933	...	...	...	—	...	12	...	12
1934	...	...	...	13	...	27	...	40
1935	...	...	...	—	...	39	...	39
1936	...	...	...	—	...	56	...	56
1937	...	...	...	—	...	50	...	50
TOTAL				13	...	184	...	197

Houses Owned by Council.

Webb's Lane	...	...	...	...	18
St. Ann's Avenue	...	...	...	...	48
Kitfield Avenue	...	...	...	...	56
Sutton Lane	...	...	...	...	13
TOTAL					135

Hayhurst Avenue—48 Houses in course of erection.

Position at the end of Year of Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders have been made or undertaking accepted.

Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...Total	20
Undertakings accepted, in respect of Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Houses Vacated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Houses Occupied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Houses Demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ waiting Demolition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ still Occupied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

- (1) (A) Total number of Dwelling-Houses inspected for Housing Defects (under Public Health Acts) ... 360
- (B) Number of Inspections made for this purpose... 580
- (2) (A) Number of Dwelling-Houses (included under Sub-head (I) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... 1

(B) Number of Inspections made for this purpose	...	...	...	3
(3) Number of Dwelling-Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	1
(4) Number of Dwelling-Houses (exclusive of those referred to under previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation				16

(2) Remedy of Defects during Year without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of Dwelling-Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	...	...	...	16
Houses closed for habitation...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	1

(3). Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(A) Proceedings under Sections 17-18-23 of the Housing Act, 1930.

- (1) Number of Dwelling-Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... Nil.
- (2) Number of Dwelling-Houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :
 - (A) By Owners ... Nil.
 - (B) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... Nil.

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of Dwelling-Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... Nil.
- (2) Number of Dwelling-Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices. ... Nil.

and

(C) Proceedings under Sections 19-21 of the Housing Act, 1930.

- (1) Number of Dwelling-Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... Nil.
- (2) Number of Dwelling-Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil.

(D) Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.

- (1) Number of separate Tenements or Under-ground Rooms in respect of which closing orders were made ... Nil.
- (2) Number of separate Tenements or Under-ground Rooms of which closing orders were determined, the tenements or room having been rendered fit Nil.

Housing Act, 1935.

(A)	(1)	Number of Dwellings overcrowded at end of year	...	...	...	...	21
	(2)	Number of Families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	21
	(3)	Number of Persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	152½
(B)	(1)	Number of new cases of Overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	6
	(2)	Number of Families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	6
	(3)	Number of Persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	30½
(C)	(1)	Number of cases of Overcrowding relieved during the Year	...	...	...	...	4
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	30
(D)		Particulars of any cases in which Dwelling-houses have again become Overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	No Cases
(E)		Any other particulars with respect to Overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	...	...	...

REMARKS.—The 48 Houses now in course of erection will practically wipe out the Overcrowding conditions.

Section E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk.

Wholesale Producers in the Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Grade A 1. Accredited 1. Others 6.							
Producers and Retailers in the Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Retailers only in the Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Retailers of Pasteurized Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

Branches of one firm.

Milk sold by retail is of good quality ; premises and carts regularly inspected and found clean.

All Cowsheds in area have Town's Water ; Shippons clean and in good order.

Sampling of Milk carried out by County Council.

Meat Inspection.

Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Registered 3. Licensed 4.								

All in good order with Town's Water laid on.

No Meat seized as unfit during the Year.

Six carcasses of Cows condemned under Tuberculosis Regulations. Removed forthwith by a manufacturer of manure.

Only three Butchers kill for local consumption, the remaining are wholesale Butchers, and their Meat is forwarded to the Wholesale Meat Market, Manchester.

No record was kept of the number of animals inspected, only those condemned.

Other Places where Food is Prepared or Sold.

Found to be in order, clean and wholesome. Four verbal warnings given as to cleanliness.

Adulteration of Food.

Supervised by County Council ; no prosecutions.

Nutrition.

No action taken.

Shell Fish.

No Shell Fish Beds in the area.

Section F.

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Disease.

During the Month of January 10 cases of Influenzal Pneumonia were notified ; of these 8 cases occurred in children whose ages ranged from 26 days to 4 years, resulting in 5 deaths. The Month was dry with very cold winds.

Other Infectious Diseases call for no comment.

Two cases of Puerperal Fever were both removed to County Council Hospitals.

Serum and Swab Outfits are at the disposal of the Medical Attendant of any case.

Swabs examined during the Year Two. Result—Negative Two.

Immunisation.

No action has been taken.

Prevention of Blindness.

One case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified during Year was treated under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health and fully recovered.

Tuberculosis.

No action necessary under Regulations.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1937.

TABLE A.

Disease.	Total Notification	Nursed at Hospital.		Nursed at Home.		Total Deaths.
		Removed	Deaths	Notified.	Deaths.	
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	15		...	15	6	6
Puerperal Fever (all forms)	2	1	...	1	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	1	...	...
Scarlet Fever	1	1	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorium..	1	1	...	...	...	...
Totals ..	20	3	...	17	6	6

TABLE B.

Disease.	At all ages.	Under 1½ year.	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over.
Pneumonia ...	15	5	1	1	2	1	1	...	1	...	1	2	...
Puerperal Fever...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia ..	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	20	6	1	1	2	1	2	...	1	3	1	2	...

TABLE C.

Disease.	At all ages.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Pneumonia ..	15	10	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1
Puerperal Fever .	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Ophthalmia ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals ...	20	10	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	3

TUBERCULOSIS.

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED DURING 1937.

	At all ages	5 to 10		15 to 20		25 to 30		35 to 40		40 to 45		50 to 55		Totals	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pulmonary ...	5	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	3	2
Non-Pulmonary ...	4	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	2

Cases added to the Register otherwise than by Formal Notification.

NIL.

Cases restored to the Register having been removed in a previous year.

NIL.

Deaths during the Year.

Pulmonary, 2; Non-Pulmonary, 1; Total—3.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

				Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Totals	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
On Register January 1st, 1937	...	...	...	5	5	9	9	14	14
Notified during the Year	...	...	...	3	2	2	2	5	4
		Totals	...	8	7	11	11	19	18
Discharged during the Year	...	...	...	2	...	1	3	3	3
On Register December 31st, 1937	...	...	...	6	7	10	8	16	15

Number of Specimens of Sputum examined by County Council.

Sent—17; Positive, 3; Negative, 14.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1937.

Civilians only.

Short List No.	CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
	ALL CAUSES	37	23	60
6	Influenza	4	1	5
9	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ...	2	...	2
10	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	...	1
13	Cancer	4	1	5
14	Diabetes ... ..	...	1	1
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage	2	1	3
16	Heart Disease... ..	13	6	19
18	Other Circulatory Diseases	1	4	5
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	1	...	1
23	Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	1	...	1
27	Other Digestive Diseases	1	...	1
28	Nephritis (Acute and Chronic)	1	1	2
31	Premature Births, etc.	1	2	3
32	Senility	1	2	3
34	Other Violence	3	1	4
35	Other Defined Diseases	1	3	4
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:—				
	Legitimate	3	4	7
	Illegitimate ... ..	...	...	...
	Totals	3	...	7
LIVE BIRTHS	Legitimate	48	51	99
	Illegitimate ... ..	...	1	1
	Totals	48	52	100
STILLBIRTHS	Legitimate	4	4	8
	Illegitimate ... ..	...	...	...
	Totals	4	4	8

RESIDENT POPULATION, 5,992.

Deaths by Ages and Month of Death.

Month.	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 55	55 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and over
January ...	10	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
February ...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	1
March ..	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	2
April ...	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1
May ...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	2
June ...	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3
July ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
August ...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2
September ...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
October ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
November ...	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	2	...
December ...	8	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	3
Totals ...	60	7	3	...	1	...	3	5	3	9	13	16

Tabular Statement of Sanitary Inspector,

Year ending December 31st, 1937.

NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE.	Number of Inspections made.	Number of Notices Served.		Result of Service of Notices.	
		Informal.	Statutory.	Complied with.	Remaining in hand
Dwelling-Houses	5807	16	...	16	...
Housing Acts	3	1	...	1	...
Tents, Vans and Sheds	22	2	..	2	...
Courts, Yards and Passages	10	1	...	1	...
Pail and Privy Closets	322	10	...	8	2
Water Closets	2009	51	...	50	1
Ashbins, Ashpits and Disposal	2510	83	...	83	...
House Drainage	28	1	...	1	...
Ditches and Watercourses	24	1	...	1	...
Keeping of Animals... ..	12	2	...	2	...
Slaughter Houses	175	3	...	3	...
Inspection of Food	309	4	...	4	...
Piggeries	15	1	..	1	...
Dairies and Milk Shops	36	1	...	1	...
Factories and Workshops	12	...	...	...	...
Bakehouses	24	1	...	1	...
Offensive Trades	2	...	...	...	...
Infectious Disease	48	...	...	...	...
Canal Boats	4	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding... ..	23	23	...	...	23
Miscellaneous... ..	45	2	...	2	...
Total	6213	203	...	177	26

BIRTHS FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total	Rate.
1933	41	41	82	12.3
1934	45	35	80	14.4
1935	47	41	88	15.9
1936	49	43	92	15.8
1937	48	52	100	16.68
Totals ...	230	212	442	15.01

DEATHS FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

Year.	Population.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate.
1933	5,481	37	26	63	9.45
1934	5,474	40	32	72	13.15
1935	5,478	40	36	76	12.05
1936	5,821	34	29	63	10.80
1937	5,992	37	23	60	10.01
Totals ...		188	146	334	11.09

NOTE.—1936, Urban Area enlarged.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

Disease.	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Pneumonia (all Forms) ...	6	12	8	13	15
Puerperal Fever (all Forms)	2	5	...	1	2
Diphtheria	5	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	...	2	2	1
Scarlet Fever	1	6	20	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	...	1	...	...	...
Typhoid (all Forms) ... ..	...	...	1	...	...
Ophthalmia ... ..	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ...	9	4	2	2	5
„ (other Forms)	9	1	4	6	4
Totals	34	29	37	23	29

**ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health
for the Year ending December 31st, 1937,
for the Urban District of Middlewich.**

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

PREMISES.								NUMBER OF		
								Inspections.	Written Notices.	Defects Remedied.
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Workplaces	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...
Totals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	Nil	Nil

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

NIL.

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

OCCUPATION.											Number.
Cycle Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Builders, Plumbers and Decorators	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wheelwrights, Joiners, Cabinetmakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Canal Boat Building	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tin Plate Working...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sadlers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Clock and Watch Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Canal Wharves	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ladies Underwear. (Packing only).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Printers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Boot and Shoe Repairing...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29

REGISTERED FACTORIES.

OCCUPATION.								Number.
Motor Repairing Garages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Salt Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Alkali	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Silk Winding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Builders, Wheelwrights, Cabinet Making	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Boot and Shoe Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tailoring, Ladies and Gentlemen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Corn Grinding and Chop Cutting	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bottling Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cheese Production	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cinema	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary Ware Manufacture...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Brick Making	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total								36

I have to report that the Factories, Workshops and Workplaces in your area are kept in a clean and good condition, all have a supply of Town's Water laid on, and the Regulations of the Factory Act have been observed, no complaints have been observed, no complaints have been received from H.M. Factory Inspector during the Year.

Conditions as to the Fire Escapes have been observed.

R. A. NEILL, M.B., Ch.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.

